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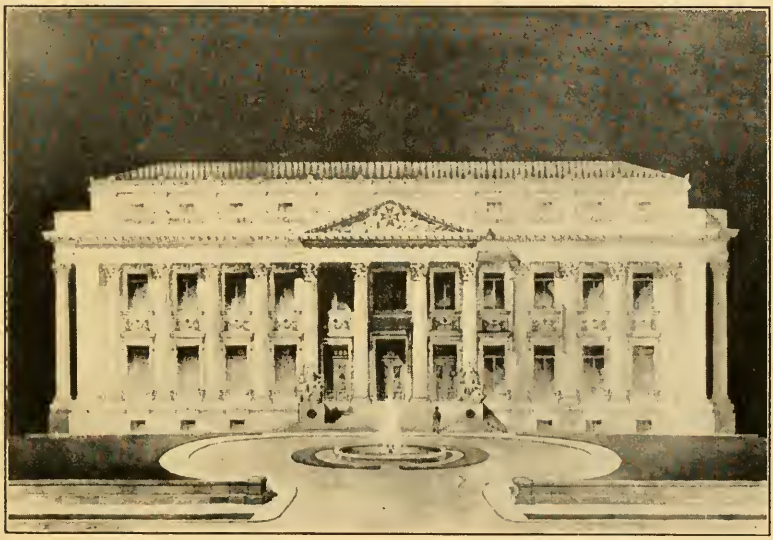
A National Monument
in the City of Washington

TO THE MEMORY OF

THE LOYAL WOMEN OF THE CIVIL WAR



TROWBRIDGE & LIVINGSTON, ARCHITECTS
NEW YORK

Commandery of the State of New York
Military Order of the Loyal Legion
of the United States

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Office of Chairman
CAPTAIN JAMES A. SCRYMSER
66 Broadway, New York
Telephone, 649 Rector

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66 BROADWAY
NEW YORK.

To the Members of the
Commandery of the State of New York,
Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the
United States.

Dear Sirs and Companions,

Knowing that the present status for a National Monument to the Loyal Women of the Civil War will be of interest to you, I am pleased to report that a Bill, appropriating the sum of $400,000 for a site for the proposed Memorial Building, unanimously passed the United States Senate on August 12th, 1912. Further, that the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds has unanimously and favorably reported a like Bill in the House of Representatives and that the same is, in consequence, now on the Calendar for the consideration of the House in December next. A careful canvass of the House forecasts favorable action at that time.

The appropriation of $400,000 is to provide for the purchase of a site and any surplus will

be used toward the completion and furnishing of the building. The Bill provides that condemnation proceedings may be undertaken if it is found impossible to get the land desired at a reasonable price.

The appropriation of Congress is wholly dependent upon the raising of a sum of $300,000 by the Commandery of the State of New York for the building. Of this amount over $150,000 has been subscribed and promised by the members and friends of the Commandery and you are earnestly urgd to do all in your power toward the raising of the additional $150,000 and at the earliest possible moment, that the work of constructing the building may not be delayed when the necessary appropriation for the site has finally passed the House and been signed by the President.

As indicated in the letter of President Taft herewith, arrangements have been concluded between the Commandery of the State of New York and the American National Red Cross Society, whereby the National Monument to the Memory of the Loyal Women of the Civil War (a project initiated by our Commandery) is to take the form of a Memorial Building in the City of Washington, which will become in perpetuity a headquarters for the American National Red Cross Society.

You will see by the design on the cover of this pamphlet that an imposing building is proposed.

OCT 1912

The floor plans provide storerooms and janitors' quarters on the first floor, rooms for officials on the second floor, directors rooms on the third floor and a Loyal Legion Museum and a Red Cross Museum, as well as an assembly room, two stories in height.

The exterior of the building would be of composite type, a series of columns and pilasters forming the portico and entire front of the structure.

The original appropriation for the site was fixed at $300,000, but the Library Committees of the Senate and the House voluntarily increased this sum to $400,000, it being found desirable to surround the building by a large open space, on which temporary structures might be erected when necessary.

These Committees were so much interested in learning of the great work of the American Red Cross Society, at home and abroad, and, also of the proposed Memorial Building project, that they ordered ten thousand copies of the Hearing to be printed for public distribution through members of the United States Congress.

May we not have your prompt and enthusiastic co-operation in this work? As the Hon. James M. Beck so appropriately said, at the Loyal Legion Banquet, October 4th, 1911:

"This project is one of singular nobility "and beauty. In many ways it is unique. "Notwithstanding the rhapsodies of poets and "artists with respect to women, it remains a "fact that few memorials erected to perpetu- "ate the memory of great achievements and "personalities, record the heroism, self-sacri- "fice, and patriotism of women.

"The achievements and heroism of men in "war have been the inspiring theme of count- "less memorials, but few can be recalled that "similarly record the self-sacrifice of women "in times of conflict. And yet woman has "been, from the very dawn of history, the "chief victim of war, the solace of disaster, "the gentle consoler of affliction, the mother "of heroes, the inspirer of victories."

The personal and hearty co-operation of every member of the New York Commandery is needed.

Annexed you will find copy of a letter to the late Commander-in-Chief, Admiral George W. Melville, which will explain itself.

Fraternally yours,

James A. Scrymser,
Chairman.

Contributions may be forwarded to the Secretary and Treasurer
John L. Merrill
Room 1900, 66 Broadway, New York City
By check or postal money order

(COPY OF LETTER FROM PRESIDENT TAFT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE RED CROSS)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Captain Scrymser:

I most heartily approve of the project of the Commandery of the State of New York of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States to build in the City of Washington a National Monument to the Memory of the Loyal Women of the Civil War, which shall become in perpetuity the headquarters of the American National Red Cross.

Memorials to the men of the Civil War are prominent throughout the country, and shall our people be less grateful to the women who labored at home, on the battle-field, and in the hospitals with a patriotic devotion unexcelled, and who, in giving those they loved, made even a greater sacrifice?

What better monument could we build to those noble women than a building at the National Capital to perpetuate their heroic effort to relieve the human suffering which inevitably follows war or any great calamity, and which found its first expression in the great Sanitary Commission of our Civil War? For it was on women's initiative

that this Sanitary Commission was inaugurated, and its success was largely due to their tireless efforts. The splendid work of this American organization was recognized by the Convention of Geneva in 1864, when the International Red Cross Treaty was enacted.

Upon the American Red Cross has fallen the mantle of the Sanitary Commission. The loyal and patriotic spirit of the women to whom this memorial is built will be forever perpetuated in the humane work of the Red Cross, to which they gave the initial impulse.

As President Lincoln so truly said, "If all that has been said by orators and poets since the creation of the world in praise of women were applied to the women of America, it would not do them justice for their conduct during the war."

I wish the project the success it deserves.

Very truly yours,

WM. H. TAFT.

CAPTAIN JAMES A. SCRYMSER, *Chairman*,
66 Broadway,
New York City.

Attention!!

VETERAN SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE CIVIL WAR

WE ASK FOR FUNDS TO BUILD

A National Monument in the City of Washington

TO THE MEMORY OF

THE LOYAL WOMEN OF THE CIVIL WAR

WHO SERVED IN THEIR HOMES, ON THE BATTLE-FIELDS, AND IN THE HOSPITALS

Comrades:

These women were yours—your mothers, your sisters, and your wives. You know that they were your co-equals in labor and more than your equals in bitterness of sorrow; for in your absence at the front they bore your burdens on their shoulders and your sufferings in their hearts. Will you quit the battle-field of life and leave no enduring ex-

pression of your appreciation? Here is your holy privilege, not to be relegated to others. Give, therefore, as you are able; give even from your poverty. Give now, for the last roll-call is near. Forgetfulness is injustice. Remembrance is a sacred duty.

Fraternally yours,

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

GENERAL STEWART L. WOODFORD
GENERAL THOMAS H. HUBBARD
GENERAL J. FRED PIERSON
MAJOR J. LANGDON WARD
CAPT. JAMES A. SCRYMSER
LIEUT. LOYALL FARRAGUT
LIEUT. THOMAS STURGIS

Contributions may be forwarded to the Secretary and Treasurer
John L. Merrill
Room 1900, 66 Broadway, New York City
By check or postal money order.

66 BROADWAY
NEW YORK.

February 8th, 1912.

Rear Admiral George W. Melville,
Commander-in-Chief,
Military Order of the Loyal Legion
of the United States
532 Walnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Project for A National Monument to the Women of the Civil War.

Dear Sir and Companion,

With reference to my letter of January 25th, last, and to your acknowledgement of the same, dated January 29th, informing me that you would take the matter up with the Recorder-in-Chief at your earliest convenience, I regret to say that up to this writing I have received nothing further from either yourself or the Recorder-in-Chief.

Your General Order of January 1st, reads

"II. Heartily approving every effort to commemorate the patriotic self sacrifice and endurance of the loyal women whose devotion

encouraged and sustained the men who, in the Army and Navy, served the cause, the Commander-in-Chief commends to the Order the purpose set forth above, and asks the several Commanderies to do all within their power to promote the success of the plan originated by the Commandery of the State of New York."

and omits any reference to the request in the original Resolution, ratified by the Commandery-in-Chief, as to the collecting of funds and forwarding the same to Recorder Blakeman, the Secretary and Treasurer, New York City.

The fact of this omission, together with the letter of the Recorder-in-Chief, Col. John P. Nicholson, to Recorder Blakeman, dated January 9th, 1912, and its enclosed correspondence, leads me to understand that the Commander-in-Chief finds embarrassment in assuming the responsibility, as Commander-in-Chief, of endorsing the project to the extent of soliciting subscriptions for the same.

For the purpose, therefore, of relieving the Commander-in-Chief of embarrassment in the premises, the Committee on Ways and Means of the Commandery of the State of New York withdraws its request for the official co-operation of the Commandery-in-Chief, and will itself undertake the task of carrying the projected memorial

to completion in its own way and with such welcome aid as those in sympathy with its efforts may voluntarily render.

With great respect, I am,

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) JAMES A. SCRYMSER, *Chairman*,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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